

THE
SCHOOL CANDIDATES,
A
PROSAIC BURLESQUE:
OCCASIONED BY THE LATE
E L E C T I O N
OF A
S C H O O L M A S T E R,
AT THE VILLAGE OF
B O U D I N N O I R.

The craven Rook, and pert Jackdaw,
Tho' neither birds of moral kind,
Yet serve, if hang'd, or stuff'd with straw,
To show us, which way blows the wind.
Thus, &c.

DUNCIAD, NOT. VAR.

U T O P I A:

Printed in the Year 1788.



TO THE
HONOURABLE and LEARNED
FRATERNITY
OF
PEDAGOGUES,
THIS
LUSUS NATURÆ

IS INSCRIBED,

With the MOST PROFOUND RESPECT,

By their most obedient, humble Servant,

The AUTHOR.

FABULÆ INTERLOCUTORES.

HUGO de BRAGMARDO, a famous Pedagogue.

Noel Epistomen, Bragmardo's Friend.

C A N D I D A T E S.

**PANTAGRISKIN,
GROPPENALBO,
PICHROCODUS,
ROBINOROSKO,
THIMBLEWILLAN,
SEDANBELLUS,
CUMBERLANDO.**

**Doctor Drubbem, of the Village of
Pâtanguille.**

**Edithe Bargamelle, Bragmardo's
Wife.**

S C E N E.

The Village of Boudinnoir.

C O N T E N T S.

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H O E Q U I D S I T ?

*I*T may not, perhaps, be improper to inform the Reader, that though the CHARACTERS in this Bagatelle have all been originally drawn
from

HOC QUID SIT?

from Real Life, and the principal INCIDENTS from Real Facts, yet there is nothing personal intended thereby; being only a General Satire on the commonly absurd Manner of conducting the Election of School-masters, and the too frequently notorious Disqualifications of both Candidates and Examiners. Should any one, notwithstanding this Declaration, be so weak, or so wise, as to imagine he can discover his own Portrait in the following Pages, let him not so far degrade himself through Spleen or Vanity, as to offer to throw Dirt at the Writer; but let him rather endeavour to turn it to his own Advantage, by correcting his Errors, and continuing no longer an Object of Ridicule. — Should it, however, have a contrary Effect with any such, — the Press is open either to vindicate or retort: And the Writer hereby promises, bona fide, that should they in so doing offer to the Public any real Production of their own, which shall be a convincing Proof that they merit the Name of either Grammarian, Mathematician, Astronomer, or Philosopher, they shall have every reasonable Concession made them, and the remaining Copies of the SCHOOL CANDIDATES be publicly burned at the Rogue's Post in the Village of Boudinnoir!

5 JY 62

T H E

SCHOOL CANDIDATES.

CANTLETTO I.

Do not the Hist'ries of all Ages,
 Relate miraculous presages
 Of strange turns, in the World's affairs,
 Foreseen b' Astrologers, Soothsayers?—
 So did the sun eelips'd foretell,
 When Cæsar in the Senate fell.

SIDROPHEL TO HUDIBRAS.

A R G U M E N T.

An Horoscopical Description of the Heavens at the Time appointed for the Council of Boudinnoir—the significant Celestial Phenomena on the Morning of that Day.—Bragmardo's Address to Edilthe—her prophetic Reply—with the Disaster consequent thereon.

WHEN SOL, the stately and magnificent ruler of our system, in his annual perambulation among his celestial subjects,

subjects, was departing from the dreary mansions of old Saturn,—his constant attendant, the winged-footed MERCURY, mounted tiptoe on the horns of the frolicsome Amalthæa,—and the love-inebriating VENUS far advanced into the airy districts of the Waterman;—LUNA, the faithful companion of Tellus, scarce half re-invested with her luminous mantle since her conjunction with the Harmonious Deity, who was already caressing the benevolent and lovely Pleiades,—the invincible MARS, intent on an amorous visit to his charming Cytherea, feasting on the delicious and effeminating Crab,—and JUPITER engaged in the regions of Mercury, admiring the judiciously wanton Twins;—SATURN, refreshing himself with the Celestial Pitcher,—the GEORGIAN, pleasingly contemplating in the palace of the chaste Diana,—and the DRAGON'S HEAD, ornamenting the splendid temple of Jupiter, the fiery and masculine Sagittarius;—THEN was it, that the great and learned Hugo de BRAGMARDO was to attend, by previous appointment, the grand Council of the Boudinnoirs.

On

On the approach of the tremendous morn, before the Crepusculum had illumined the chambers of the east, being the last planetary hour of Jupiter's day, and which is peculiarly appropriated to Sol; — Mercury being LORD of the ASCENDANT, accompanied by the courageous and magnanimous significator Antares, — Luna in the cusp of the fifth house, escaping from the horns of the furious Bull, — Procyon descending from his nocturnal kennel, — and the caparisoned Pegasus just starting on his diurnal course, — our Hero, big with the important business of the day, thus addressed his beloved BARGAMELLE, — “ My dear EDITHE, thou inundation of prosperity, Partner of my griefs and pleasures, my disfaces and honours; let me unbosom myself to thee, before I enter on the critical and momentous affair that this day is to engage my most deliberate and serious cogitations, that thy sympathizing breast may not only partake of the unspeakable blifs arising from the pleasing presage of my future greatness, which the Celestial Aspects this morning exhibit at my awaking hour, but that I also may derive some advantage.

advantage from thy judicious observations, and ever wholesome admonitions."

BARGAMELLE, whose propitious natal stars had blessed with a prophetic tongue, and whose fancy had now been disturbed by an unpleasing and frightful dream, cries out, half awake,—“Avaunt! Thou spectre of dissimulation, and trouble me not with thy aerial predictions; for since truth is unknown to thee, and thy expectations of greatness are built on the sandy foundation of mere pretensions to knowledge, thou wilt in the end become the common butt of ridicule, and an object of contempt for thy presumption. Knowest thou not that thy natal hour was governed by the evil and mischievous Mercury, who was then not only ill-dignified, but also in conjunction with malevolent aspects, plainly indicating,—that thy disposition is to slander and abuse the character of every one without distinction, and to calumniate thy benefactors; that thou art a boaster, a flatterer, a sycophant, a busybody, a tale-bearer, given to propagate idle tales and false stories; pretending to all kinds of knowledge, though a mere idiot in thy intellectual faculties, and incapable

capable of acquiring any solid or substantial learning; apt to boast of great honesty, yet very much addicted to mean *literary* thievery." BRAGMARDO, ignorant of the real cause of this taunting reply, cries out with astonishment,—" Oh! Why did I not give entire credit to the configuration I formed previous to my being fettered with the cursed and mortiferous bands of wedlock; when, on investigating the Seventh House of the Horoscope, though it was fortified by the significators Luna and Libra, yet, was old Saturn, that malevolent and greater Infortune, found therein,—a most unfavourable omen, and portentous of great sorrow and wretchedness in that engagement." — Having thus apostrophized, he instantly seizes the Cloacinean Vessel, and empties the contents of it full in the face of his dear BARGAMELLE, and by a precipitate flight, soon found himself on the high road to Boudinnoir.

CANT.

C A N T. II.

In Magic he was deeply read,
As he that made the Brazen-head;
Profoundly skill'd in the Black Art,
As English Merlin for his heart.—
Deep-sighted in intelligences,
Ideas, atoms, influences.

HUDIBRAS.

A R G U M E N T.

Hugo meets with his Friend Epistomen — a Chef-d'œuvre in the Black Art, or Mother Bongey's process for raising the flying Imp Scopulax. or Broom-Stick — from whence Bragmardo acquires a perpetual Badge of Honour — their Aerial Passage to Boudinnoir.

BRAGMARDO having, from the violent agitation of his spirits occasioned by the morning's rencontre, forgot to call on his friend EPISTOMEN, who, out of the great esteem and profound respect for the shining abilities of his beloved BRAGMARDO,

MARDO, had proposed him to the Boudinnoirs as the most proper person to be appointed for the nomination of a Preceptor to their children ; he, therefore, by an acute detour, presently beheld the face of his companion.

The morning, however, not being very favourable, and the road somewhat rugged and disagreeable, HUGO thought it requisite on such an extraordinary occasion to have recourse to his art, in order to accommodate his friend and himself with a speedy and easy conveyance ; and which, at the same time, he conceived would be a most convincing proof to Epistomen of his deep knowledge, and surprising acquisitions. For this purpose therefore, he applied the Pyro-gyro-botouomantic Spell of old Mother Bongey, the famous witch of Rochester, the process of which was as follows :— Being the efficacious hour of Jupiter, HUGO and his friend repaired under a large spreading oak (a tree under the government of that planet) which they discovered at a little distance from the road, from whence taking a small sprig of the Mistletoe, and binding it in a certain manner,

B

with

with a thong made of the magical *Pezux-de-Lutin*, together with a branch of dry laurel, and another of the *Genista* plant, they placed the faggot horizontally at the foot of the tree, in the direction of Jupiter's Azimuth, strewing over the whole the herb *Supervivum majus*: Then encircling the body of the tree with their extended arms, HUGO thrice invoked, in the *Gastramythian* mode, the *Numen Loci*; when, there was immediately responded, by a ventral fatiloquency——

“*Pinge duos angues, pueri, facer est locus;
extra meite.*”

HUGO therefore instantly procured two twigs of the *Arbor genialis*, and forming them into serpent-like figures, encircled therewith the *Shaj-durhkut*, or magical *Fascis*; his friend and he performing the same ceremony around it as Jupiter, Neptune, and Mercury did of old, when the arrogant *Orion* was produced. HUGO then taking, in his right hand, a branch of the Divinatory tree *Tamarisk*, and with the other applying his magical vial to the
Fascis,

Fascis, repeating at the same time with an audible voice

——“ O maximus noctem
Arbitrum, umbrellaque potatoe,”——

there was distinctly heard, in a sound resembling a distant reverberation,

“ Aures asininas habet Bragmardo.”

——when to the great terror of EPISTOMEN, who had never before seen the Gastramythian process—he beheld the head of the all-wise HUGO ornamented, like another Midas, with a huge pair of asses’ ears:—Eagerly demanding the reason of this unexpected event, Hugo informed him, that he had either not proceeded *secundus artos astrologiem*, or he had inadvertently uttered improper words;—when silently summoning to his aid his familiar spirit Kakadaimona, he was instantly compelled to roar aloud

——“ O maxime noctis
Arbiter, umbrarumque potens, — Scopolax furge,”

a terrisonous response was then given —

——“ Per me quod eritque, fuique,
estque, patet.”——

Hugo then repeats,

“ Scopulax, I say,—come forth, with thy
Necromantic Munfahk,

Indu'd with Magic Wings to fleet in air,
By Firebrass guided, crown'd with hissing
hair.”

On a sudden the whole was in flames,
from whence issued, with a horrid noise,
the magical broom-breech'd Pegasus, with
the Imp Firebrass ready mounted tip-
toe on its crupper, as postilion. BRA-
MARDO, as an example of fortitude to
his friend, instantly bespide the necro-
mantic filly; but EPISTOMEN could not
be prevailed on to accompany him, till he
was assured there was not the least danger,
as the spell would retain its efficacy for one
whole syderial hour, which was a much
longer time than the passage could possi-
bly require. His doubts being therefore
somewhat removed, he mounted behind
his friend Hugo; when, by the virtual
efforts of Firebrass, they gradually ascend-
ed to an amazing height in the air, and
proceeded

proceeded with an uniform motion towards the place of destination; accurately describing in their track, the magico-parabolic curve of the famous astrologian Bombastus de Hohenheim.

C A N T. III.

Besides, he could confound the spheres,
And set the planets by the ears.
To shew his skill, he Mars could join
To Venus in aspect malign,
Then call in Mercury for aid,
And cure the wounds that Venus made.

SWIFT.

A R G U M E N T.

Biagmardo and Epistomen's Sentiments concerning Matrimony — Hugo's Diffidence with respect to the Examination of the Candidates — removed by the powerful Arguments of his Friend — he relates some Circumstances of his Birth and Education — his great Acquisitions — in Languages — Mathematics — Philosophy — Botany — Pharmacy — Medicine — Astrology — and Divination.

EPISTOMEN having overcome the apprehensions which naturally affected his mind at the commencement of their aerial expedition on the back of the magical Pegasus, could not help remarking in his friend, an unusual dejection of spirits ;

rits ; which, however, he secretly imputed to the right cause ; and, in order to divert his mind from the object which seemed to have wholly engrossed it, began by observing, that, as he himself was yet unshackled by the *Conjugale Fœdus*, he was not only unacquainted with domestic broils, but was entirely at liberty to pursue his favourite studies unmolested, and without interruption ; in which happy state he meant ever to continue. Here BRAGMARDO, sensibly touched by comparing his own situation in life with that of his friend, exclaims, — “ Oh, the stupidity and vernility of mankind, — that there should be permitted such an abuse of power in the world, as either a public or domestic Gynecocracy ! Marriage is certainly necessary, and a duty incumbent on the human species in general ; — but he, my friend, who has once got his neck out of the halter, deserves to meet the fate of Mordecai, or rather, Prometheus like, to be perpetually nibbled away by Ducks, if he be ever found there again. — The *Spanish* proverb indeed says, *Prima donna matrimonio ; la seconda compagna ; la terza kafia* ; — but our wives are not Spaniards,

Spaniards, my dear Epistomen.——Oh, that these petticoat-rulers were all be-shackled with a Bergamasco lock !”——

“ No, resumes **EPISTOMEN**, had I entangled myself with wedlock, I should never have become the Aurora of Erudition to one of the most opulent maritime towns in our kingdom ; by the principal inhabitants of which I am now universally caressed and admired. Oh ! my dear Hugo, — I, you know, who, from the handling of the Mallet, or bedaubing the walls of newly-erected mansions ; and indeed, who, a few years ago, knew little more than my *Tabula elementorum*, am now become the Mirror of Philosophy, and the Archetype of all valuable science, is a most enchanting reflection, too powerful for the human frame to support. Take courage then, my friend, continues **EPISTOMEN**, and let nothing depress that laudable spirit of advancement, which so evidently appears in all your pursuits. This day you have an opportunity of rendering your name immortal, by a judicious exhibition of your great acquisitions and profound learning, before many of our profession, and in the presence

sence of the most respectable and scientific part of the enlightened Boudinnoirs."

BRAGMARDO, who by this time, had apparently recovered the usual serenity of his mind, politely thanked his friend for his kind and encouraging discourse; observing, that his dejection of spirits did not arise from any diffidence of his own abilities, or the least apprehensions of incapacity for the undertaking he was then engaged in; but from another cause, which, at that time, must remain in petto. "For I do assure you, my dear EPISTOMEN, continues he, from the very first application I received from the Boudinnoirs concerning this affair, I ultroneously engaged therein, and have now, by a proper deuteroscopy of the business, completely qualified myself for the arduous task; having also selected and composed all the catachrestical and semiper-spicious interrogatories on every branch of science I intend to propose to them; and which, as an occasional assistant to my recollection I have remitted orderly and distinctly to my Mnemonicum. The only apprehension I am under is, — that, from the abundance of materials I have over-
charged

charged my mental budget with, I should so unfortunately jumble them together in the act of exonerating, as to get hold of the wrong end first, and thereby confound myself and nonplus the whole audience. Oh, my dear EPISTOMEN, this has more than once been my unhappy case. Not long ago in my prolegomena to a public speech, which I had been a whole synodical month in matagrabolizing, I had previously so overloaded my hypogastric — to speak metaphorically, NOEL, — that the ingredients not well concocting, absolutely occasioned a vortex in the intestines, and I discharged such a cataclysm of heterogeneous matter on the audience, that threw them all into the greatest consternation, and myself into the most enthusiastic rhapsody that ever actuated a Bacchanalian priest. — This is what I most dread.” — “ Oh, never fear, my dear HUGO, cries EPISTOMEN, — Si Deus pro nobis, quis contra nos? I shall be at your elbow, and whenever you seem to be at your ne plus ultra, or even betray the least signs of hesitation, I’ll serve the purpose of an exsufflator to you; or, should there appear any symptoms of an incal-

scence,

science, or of the rhapsodical fit, I'll endeavour to divert the audience from too strict an attention to you, by some seasonable manœuvre." Hugo, whose breast overflowed with gratitude for the extreme civility of his friend, passionately exclaims, "Oh! My exsuffolating, prophylactic EPISTOMEN, — thy inamissible friendship is more valuable than the universal Elixer, or even the inframundane Specific of Paracelsus!" In uttering these words, he was so strongly agitated by his feelings, that, making a sudden turn with his body, in order to express himself more forcibly, he unluckily dismounted his friend EPISTOMEN, — and had not BRAGMARDO had presence of mind in that instant to seize him by the leg, he had suffered the tragical fate of the aerial adventurers Romaine and Pilatre de Rozier.

EPISTOMEN, however, being again pretty securely seated on the back of Scopulax, — BRAGMARDO thus resumed his discourse: — "Ah, my beloved NOEL, how oft do I reflect on the circumstantial similarity of our pursuits in life, and the congeniality of our dispositions. Our
education

education in many respects the same. My Progenitors, you know, were totally unlettered, — HIS chief employment, fowgelling and averuncating, — HER'S the vending of Eringo pies and Pistachio nuts. — No mercenary priest had ever cramp'd their hands by wedlock ; — and their discordance furnished daily matter of conversation for the gossips of the neighbourhood. I was therefore tragicomically begot, and ushered upon the grand stage of life by the strict laws of Pantomime. But though the heavens were not then propitious, Jupiter being in decadence, ill-dignified, and afflicted with evil aspects ; — which, you know, is portentous of one of mean abilities, and shallow understanding, obstinate in maintaining erroneous doctrines, — a sycophant to the Great, and a domestic tyrant, — yet, I say, in spite of my stars, I am happy in hereditary knowledge. Though my youth was not spent in literary acquirements, — the sinews of my thumb cramp'd with writing, — or my bum scarified with the barbarous birch, — still, by mere dint of Genius, I am become a proficient in most arts and sciences. I have also ac-
quired

quired a true taste for Criticism, — made myself acquainted with the most polite modern languages: and though I have no great pretensions to the Greek and Hebrew, yet I have diligently, and successfully I presume, applied myself to both the ancient and modern Oriental Tongues, — the Arabic, Syriac, Chaldaic, and Egyptian. My last attempt has been the Persian, in which I have made so great a progress, that I have been strongly inclined to publish an improved edition of the Mininski. Oh, my dear NOEL, were I to travel into Persia, or Indostan, I should not have the least occasion for either the Mounchee or Tuijuman, as I am perfectly acquainted with the idioms, and write the Shekeftah hand with the greatest facility. My shelves are now graced with a variety of curious and learned treatises; my favourite authors, however, are — Cornelius Agrippa, Friar Bongey, Peter Aretin, and the Boghouse Miscellany. Swift's whims and jokes I abominate; neither can I endure verse without rhyme: Milton and Thompson are universal blanks to me. My standard for morals is Chesterfield; and Priestly hath given the final

C determination

determination to my creed. In Mathematics and Philosophy, you know, my dear NOEL, my acquisitions are indisputable: But my favourite pursuits are Phytology and Astrology. By the great skill I have acquired in these two most admirable sciences, I can with ease determine, not only the Genus and Class of each plant, but also clearly point out in regard to the Foliosity, whether it be asperfoliate, or graminifoliate; — respecting the Semenosity, whether gymnodispermous, or endospermous; — and lastly, with respect to the Fructuosity, whether pomiferous, bacciferous, or pruniferous; plainly distinguishing the filiquous and leguminous plants: My Foliation would be to an intelligent botanist a fund of entertainment; containing an amazing variety of the fugacious petals. But my acquaintance with the Vegetable world does not terminate here, but comprehends the whole of the Galenical Pharmacopœia, in the various preparations of every officinal simple, by Distillation, Infusion, and decoction; either as Emulgent, Julep, Potion, Linctus, Bolus, Gargarison, Lotion, Collyrium, Embrocation, Fomentation, Liniment, Cataplasm,

taplasm, Glyster, Injection, Suppository, Frontal, Epithem, Sternutatory, Sacculus, Suffiment, Nodule, Cucuphas, Pessary, or Turunda. These I apply to the human body, externally or internally, according to a strict observance of the planetary aspects, whether trine, sextile, quartile, opposition or conjunction; having a due regard to the sympathy and antipathy of each plant, with the subject of complaint, and its specific virtues by its planetary government." — "YEs, replies **EPISTOMEN**, who now began to wish himself at the end of his voyage, — You may indeed, my dear **HUCO**, with great propriety, adopt the words of **Apollo** to the flying **Daphne**, —

*Inventum medicina meum est; opiferq;
per orbem
Dicor, et herbarum subiecta potentia no-
bis."*

BRAGMARDO, who wished however, not to be interrupted in his rhapsodical self-panegyric, continued thus ———

"An equal knowledge, my beloved **NOEL**, in the divine science of **Astrology**. not

only enables me to be of service to mankind in recovering whatever they may have been unlawfully deprived of, and bringing the delinquents to justice, but also to predict future events; by the knowledge of which, a man may so regulate his conduct, as to avoid many imminent dangers, that might otherwise prove his final ruin. By a proper attention to the temperature of the sign, hot or cold; also whether it be fruitful, barren, humane, mute or feral, in which the Lord of the Ascendant or Moon is posited at a nativity; or the Cusp of the fifth house be affected with Cancer, Scorpio, or Pisces, with regard to the particular efficacy and virtue of each, according to that part of the heavens where they bear rule (circumstances not properly attended to by former Astrologians, or even by the illuminated SIBLY) the true disposition of the person will appear, as well in manners as in bodily excellencies or imperfections. In short, by duly observing the sinister and dexter, partile and platic aspects, the Joys and Antiscions of the planets, with their Frustration, Reception, Perigrination, Combustion, Besieging, Almution, and Cazimi, I can,

I can, with the greatest perspicuity, deduce from my temporary horoscope, true, infallible, and absolute predictions, respecting either the Calculation of Nativities, or the solving of any Horary Questions whatsoever. — The various arts of Divination, both ancient and modern, I have also made myself perfectly master of, and have added several of my own discoveries thereto: This, indeed, I have been imperceptibly led into by occasionally reading the learned Cardan's *De Sapia*, particularly his fourth book, where he treats of the art of Cephaleonomancy. I can now deduce the same conclusions by various other processes, which equally serve as corroborative proofs of their genuine and indubitable principles. These I have digested into a regular system, which, in a short time, I purpose to favour the world with: The subjects treated of are — the Assyrian Hydromancy, — Aristophanes' Aeoromancy, — Julianus' Catoptromancy, — Theocritus' Alphitomancy, as given in his *Pharmaceutria*, — the Cæsarian Tyromancy, — Heliogabalus' Anthropomancy, — the Sybilline Stychomancy, — and the Circular

G 3 Alectryomancy;

Alectryomancy ; — also Pyromancy, — Lecanomancy, — Alentomancy, — Astragalomancy, — Giromancy, — Siernomancy, — Libanomancy, — Gastomancy, — Ceromancy, Capnomancy, — Axionomancy, — Onymancy, — Tephromancy, — Botonomancy, — Sicomancy, — Ichthyomancy, — Choiromancy, — Chemomancy, — Onomatomancy, — Sciomancy, — and Necromancy. To which, I have also added, a clear and explicit account of the mysterious arts of Augury, Extispiciny, and Aruspiciny. — And for the amusement of the learned, I have annexed thereto as an appendix, two excellent dissertations, — the one entitled, *De modo faciendi puddingos*, — the other, *De optimitate triparum*." Here the great BRACMARDO ended his learnedrodomontade, and EPISTOMEN began to express his sentiments on the nature of Occult Qualities, — the possibility of the Entelechy, — and the Phos Agathon, wherein they alternately displayed their deep erudition to each other, during the rest of their aerial voyage to the village of Boudinnoir.

CANT.

C A N T. IV.

From his high Scaffold, with a Trumpet-
Cheek,
And ogling all the Audience ere he spake,
At his own filthy Stuff he grins and brays,
And gives the Sign where he expects their
Praise ; —
And bawls aloud, with a more clam'rous
Note,
Than an Arcadian Ass can stretch his
Throat.

PERS. Sat. DRYDEN.

A R G U M E N T.

*Bregmardo's extraordinary Skill displayed in a
surprising Metamorphosis, — his Reception
with the Boudinnoirs — his polite Address
to them — his learned Charge to the Can-
didates — the Interruption occasioned by
Epistomen's sudden Indisposition — instant-
ly removed by Hugo's Prescription.*

IN the mean time the Boudinnoirs were
assembled in consequence of a public
advertisement, and with great impatience
waited

waited the arrival of the great BRAGMARDO. At length there was descried, at an amazing height in the atmosphere, a very unusual appearance. It was at first pronounced to be a prodigious vulture or eagle, — then a paper kite, — a flock of wild-geese; when one of the company, more curious than the rest, by means of a pocket telescope, plainly discovered it to be the wicker gallery of a balloon, with two aerial travellers therein, which, he observed, must have been by some accident separated from the mongolfier or balloon itself in its ascent! However, their doubts concerning this strange phenomenon, were soon changed into the greatest astonishment, when, on its nearer approach, they distinctly perceived the great BRAGMARDO and his friend EPISTOMEN riding on a broom-stick; which seemed, to the spectators, to be escorted by a large barnacle goose. Our aerial travellers had no sooner descended to the earth and dismounted, than HUGO, to increase still more the admiration of the Boudinnoirs, by one bold effort of his art, instantly metamorphosed the imp Scopulax into an huge May-pole, standing erect on the very spot where they alighted,

alighted, and Firebrass decorating its summit under the form of a large cock ; — which magical prodigy he ordered to remain there, as a public monument to perpetuate the remembrance of this extraordinary and supernatural agency in the Necromantic art.

BRAGMARDO having got this part of the business off his hands, and the spectators somewhat recovered from the awful surprise this uncommon scene had affected their minds with, they retired into an apartment prepared for the purpose, which HUGO and his friend had no sooner entered, than they were nearly suffocated with the effusive caresses and extravagantly complimentary gesticulations of the admiring Boudinnoirs. These congratulatory marks of respect however ceasing, and the company being seated, the great BRAGMARDO opened the business with the following address : — Gemmen, By the pressing solicitations of my friend EPISTOMEN, whose extraordinary acquirements you must have repeatedly witnessed during his Petalism amongst you, I have undertaken the arduous, though honourable task, of
selecting,

34 THE SCHOOL CANDIDATES.

selecting, by a strict interrogation of the candidates, a properly qualified tutor for your rising offspring. I cannot sufficiently applaud your understanding in making so judicious a choice of an Examiner: My character and amazing abilities are now well known, which modesty, however, will not, at this time, permit me to enlarge upon: My friend **EPISTOMEN** is, nevertheless, perfectly at liberty to say what he pleases." — "Yes, my beloved **BRAGMARDO**, replies **EPISTOMEN**, I can with verity assert, that you are in study — totus in illis, and may therefore be said to be singulus in arte; — and to whom may be truly applied that Evangelical word — *Et ecce plus quam Solomon hic*. In short, you are — *aliquid tantum in omnibus!*" — Which words were no sooner uttered, than re-echoed by the whole company in a general burst of applause — "*Harlequin scantum in omnibus! — Scantum in omnibus!*"

The hour of examination being come, the Candidates, who had punctually attend at the rendezvous, were summoned to appear in the council room, in order to
hear

hear, from the lips of the learned BRAG-MARDO, the great importance of the office, and the qualifications requisite to discharge the duties thereof with propriety. HUGO then,—rising from his seat with as majestic a countenance as ever distinguished an Eastern Monarch, but, however, from the prevalence of habit, his right hand employed in picking his nose, and the other within the waistband of his breeches,—thus harangued to the candidates : —

“ Hem, Hem,—Gemmen, I have been desired to come here to examine and explore your faculties, and to expose to the public view of these respectable Boudinnoirs the magnanimity and virility of your parts. And if upon a strict scrutiny, I find one whose qualifications are adequate to the undertaking, and whose substantific quality of his elementary complexion is intronicated in the terrestreity of his quidditative nature, so as to extraneize the blasting mists and whirlwinds of immorality upon the minds of youth, if he will come to my Gymnasium, and sup with me, *nos faciemus bonum cheerum*, *ego occidit unum porcum*, et ego habet bonum vine.”

vino." Here **EPISTOMEN**, perceiving the whole audience staring at **HUGO** as in the greatest amazement, and equally as solicitous for the classical reputation of his friend, as to prevent the rhapsodical paroxysm, affected to be taken with a violent fit of coughing; which, however, could not prevent **HUGO** from continuing his harangue, in the following words: —

"Always remember, **GEMMEN**, the golden rule of the renowned **Hagiographer King David**, — *Reddite quo sunt Cæsaris, Cæsari: et qui sunt Dei, Deum.* — *Psalmo nescio quo.*" — Here **EPISTOMEN** was observed to bite his lips. — "Never suffer your minds, like many of our profession in the hours of tuition, to be harrassed with the aberrations of human cogitations; nor let any adventitious extraneous affairs make any impression on your conceptive, cogitative faculties, so that you may prewise the facility of the intuitive operations adequately, with a subact and sedate intellection, associated with diligent and congruous study. Therefore let all manner of perturbation abdicate the ventricles of your brain, and be constant spectators and auditors of every particular phenomenon,

phenomenon, and every individual proposition, that comes under the consideration of your visual and ascultating powers, and thus emancipate yourselves from the imputation of crassous ignorance, which is, indeed, but too often truly imputed to many of our fraternity. Always observe, Gemmen, —to keep good order in your schools; and above all, never forget the Idus and Calendæ. Be also particularly strict in your hours; for which purpose a good bell is an excellent appendage: Ego sic argumentor. Omnis Bellia bellabilis in bellerio bellando bellans bellativo, bellare fecit, bellabiliter bellantes — Here EPIS-
TOMEN was apparently seized with an epilepsy, which threw the whole company into confusion; and, on the symptoms growing more violent, it was thought expedient instantly to call in a physician; which, however, was over-ruled by HUGO, on his observing there was not the least necessity for it, as he perceived that his indisposition was occasioned only by a constipation of the chyle, which naturally produces a contraction of the abdominal muscle. He therefore immediately ordered him a glass of Wormwood wine,
D which

which was no sooner administered, than HUGO affirmed he foresaw an immediate convalescence ; which prediction was certainly true,—the complaint being only to be a temporary one, was therefore very soon removed. This part of the farce being over, and BRAGMARDO again mounted the rostrum, he took occasion from this incident, to expatiate on the virtues of certain herbs, and their wonderful effects when applied by a skilful person ; and also of the derivations of their names, as enumerated by Pliny ; — some, he observed, from their similarity to other objects in form or shape ; others from the countries where they are produced ; and others again from the persons who first discovered them : Some also from their virtues and operations ; others from some peculiar quality they are found to possess ; whilst others again are denominated from a contrariety in their natures, by what Grammarians call an Antiphrases : ——

“ So says he, the herb we have just now seen the admirable effects of, is termed in latin Absinthium, because it is contrary to the greek word — hem, — signifying sweetness.” Here HUGO paused, as if at a loss

a loss for a learned word; which EPIS-
TOMEN perceiving, immediately adds —
“Very true, — The word Absinthium, is
in greek *‘Apsinthyon*, that is, undrinkable;
quasi *‘apinthion*, ab *a* privativâ et *pino* bibo;
quod non sit potabile ob amarorem; vel ab *a*
priv. et *psinthos*, id est *terpsis* delectatio.” —

BRAGMARDO then making some apology
for this adventitious digression from the
business in hand, thus resumed his inte-
resting harangue: — “You will ob-
serve, my worthy colleagues, that what I
have been delivering to you is not spu-
rious Lingo, but genuine Augustine; as
may be seen in Pontanus’s moriæ enco-
mium, Agrippa de vanitate scientiarum, or
elsewhere: But my memory is sometimes
rather treacherous, and I am now fatigued
with my ride, or I could play Diabolus in
argumentation. At present, however, I
may say with my famous ancestor Janotus,
— some strong beer, my back to the fire,
and belly to the table, with a good dish be-
fore me, will suit much better. So, Gem-
men, I solemnly beseech you, in nomine
SOLIS, LUNÆ, et URSE MAJORIS,
amen, — that you will not offer yourselves
as candidates, unless your qualifications

answer the requisites I have pointed out to you.

BRAGMARDO here ending his Exordium, and the candidates withdrawing, his friend and he were again obliged to sustain the extravagant caresses of the infatuated Boudinnoirs ; which, however, they very chearfully submitted to, when they saw themselves accommodated with a table decorated with a couple of plump, boiled capons and oyster sauce, a dish of fine, fresh trout, a tankard of right British porter, and half a dozen bottles of excellent Champaign. Here our two aerial travellers soon made amends for the fatigue of the journey ; and HUGO, at the same time, took the opportunity of preparing for the examination, by refreshing his memory with the contents of his Mnemonicum.

CANT.

C A N T. V.

So deep in knowledge, that few lines can
 found [found,
 And plumb the bottom of that vast pro-
 Few grave ones with such gravity can think,
 Or follow half so fast as he can sink ;
 With nice distinctions glossing o'er the text,
 Obscure with meaning, and in words per-
 plext.

CHURCHILL

ARGUMENT.

Pantagriskin called in for Examination—Grop-penalbo interrogated — fails in his Attempt in Penmanship — succeeds no better in English Grammar — leaves the Company disgracefully — Pichrocodus's Examination — in English Grammar — respecting Con-junctions — Verbs — Derivation of the words Almanac and Calendar.

OUR aerial travellers having now well fortified the inward man; and every necessary preparation made for the

ELECTION, — HUGO conspicuously elevated in the President's chair, with EPISTOMEN at his elbow, and the principal Boudinnoirs seated around the room; a large table placed in the middle, furnished with the terrific instruments of examination, — Grammars, Dictionaries, Lexicons, and various authors in both the dead and living languages, slates, pencils, pen-knives, writing-paper, rulers, quills, ink, &c. and a chief of the Boudinnoirs seated beside it, having before him a heap of specimens, testimonials, and credentials, — it was unanimously agreed that the examination should commence with Pantagriskin.

PANTAGRISKIN'S EXAMINATION.

THIS Candidate being called in, HUGO thus accosts him, — “ Well, Sir, from your testimonials I find, your qualifications are — Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and Merchants' Accounts, — the most essential parts of education indeed, and what are chiefly necessary in the common concerns in life. You have no objection, I suppose, Mr. Pantagriskin, to undergo a slight examination in these branches ?”

branches?" To which he immediately replied, — "Now not I, — but con tee zamin me, dost think? I'd had tee t'no, tat I've tow't a skoo before teaw tid." —

"Well, says Hugo, but you know it is customary and requisite, in such affairs as these, for every candidate to be examined, let his abilities be ever so well known, that it may appear there is no partiality or favour shewn." — "Tats reet, replies Pantagriskin, — lets hear then wot tee con saigh to me?" Hugo immediately gives him this sentence, —

Honesty is the worst Policy,

debring him to shew what part of speech each word is of, and to correct it, if necessary. "Correct dost saigh, replies Pantagriskin, — Why mon its reet, it needs noan; teaw thinks I connaw see I reckon. And as toth parts o speech, I know a neawn and a vaib, I think, as weel as tee e'ry bit." — "You are, without doubt, an excellent Grammarian," replies Hugo. Pantagriskin immediately returns, "Why rot it mon, teaw need naw sneer, — dosto think eh dunnaw know Inglish, when ot
I've

I've larnt Greek. — and when ot eh tow't skoo, I're for being a Pearson, bnr as eh thow't Tread wur better." — " I suppose, says Hugo, you are pretty conversant in Arithmetic?" — " Yigh, yigh, replies Pantagriskin, tat I am mon, — I've larnt Algébra, and speerical trigonometry till ot eh coom to'th plaguy sircular parts, rot em, they'd lik'nt t'a turnt me brean. Teaw need'nt, heaw'eer, ax me any questions in 'rathmatic, I'll upow't tee." — " And in Book-keeping, says, Hugo, you are pretty ready, Sir, I suppose?" — " Aye, Aye, mon, replies Pantagriskin, there's noan cou beot me at tat. — I con mon tat, either at single or double entry. When I're a book-keeper, I newer wus once masker'd with eaw't ot happen'd i'th way o tread." — " Well, says Hugo, pray Sir, tell me how I am to journalize this entry, — Bought a quantity of goods, value *one hundred and fifty pounds*, for which I pay down in part *five shillings*, and the rest at eighteen months?" — " Why, answers Pantagriskin, as to tat, — tat, teaw sces, — tat, is just as foak tean it. — 'Sblood, — how my measler used to saigh, heaw reddey I wur i'th.

i'th books, and tat I're best book-keeper that ewer he had in his life; and he'd had monny o one, I'll upowt tee." — "Well, Mr. Pantagriskin, returns HUGO, your abilities are indeed very great; you may now retire, as our time is but short; you will know in the end our determination."

The Candidate who next makes his appearance is

GROPPENALBO.

BRAGMARDO, now assuming a very stern countenance, thus addresses Groppenalbo, — "You have, no doubt, Mr. Groppenalbo, considered the importance of this undertaking; and, I presume, would not offer yourself on such an occasion, *was* you not sufficiently qualified for it." — "Yes, Sir, replies Groppenalbo, I think my qualifications will be found more than equal to the task. There is my CARD, — but which indeed exhibits a slight account of my various acquisitions. — "Astonishing, cries HUGO, — why, you have got all the learning in the world, and left none
for

for any one else, — Ha ! ha ! he ! Pray how long have you been concerned with a Muklub-hkaneh ?” — “ A Mucktub do you say ! returns Groppenalbo in haste, — No, Sir, I would have you to know, that though circumstances have obliged me to decline the School-business for some time, I have not yet been under the necessity of submitting to that meanest of employments.” — “ Why, Sir, what do you mean ?” replies HUGO, — a man here who professes to teach every thing, and be ignorant of the Persian term for a School ! — Ha ! ha ! he ! — Pray then, in plain english, — Have you been long accustomed to the instruction of youth ?” — Oh, yes Sir, replies Groppenalbo, — I once kept a genteel Boarding School in a country village — but Fortune — that fickle dame, — was not propitious. — I then determined to display my abilities in an opulent trading town ; — but adverse Fortune. — alas ! — Since then, I have been necessitated to the *Dernière Ressource* !” — *Dernière Ressource*, repeats HUGO, pray what is that ? I hope nothing bad, — Usher in a School ?” — “ Worse than that,” replies Groppenalbo. — “ Clerk
in

in a counting-house?" — "worse." —
"The bounty of your friends?" — "Still
worse." — Not absolutely begging or
robbery, I hope?" — "worse than either
of those." — "Keep me no longer in sus-
pense, I beseech you, — what is it, pray?"
— "Why Sir, it is hard labour, — the
C—g—F—e! Oh, the cursed C—g—
F—e! — "Ah, mon cher ami, replies
HUGO, — Il faut travailler pour gagner de
l'Argent. Ha! ha! he! — What need
have you to be ashamed of labour. Know
you not, that the great King Xerxes was
a crier of mustard; Tarquin a porter;
Artaxerxes a ropemaker; and Hannibal a
mender of kettles? Was not the great
Commodus a bagpiper; Antiochus a
chimney-sweeper; the famous Dido a
seller of mushrooms; and Lucretia a
crier of white puddings? — Read Ancient
History, Sir, and you will never be sham-
ed of an honest employment, however
mean or laborious. — Well, Mr. Grop-
penalbo, I shall pay a proper regard to
your merits, you may withdraw." —
"Withdraw, Sir, replies Groppenalbo,
I insist upon a proper examination before
I withdraw." — The Boudinnoirs think-
ing

ing this but a reasonable demand, BRAGMARDO was desired to interrogate him. "Well, Sir, resumes HUGO, will you oblige us with a specimen of your Writing?" — Upon which, Groppenalbo, without the least hesitation, sat down to the table, prepared the pen and paper, and, to *shew the master*, commenced with a large Capital by command of hand; the pen, however, not having a proper cut for the purpose, he did not succeed to his wishes, but at the very first stroke sent the nib entirely through the paper; and unluckily, at the same time, with the extensive sweep of his arm, overset a full tankard of beer, which had been accidentally just placed on the table. Matters, however, being adjusted, Groppenalbo again sat down to the table, and a second, third, fourth, and even fifth attempt was each attended with similar disasters. At length, he threw down the pen in rage, and starting up from the table, exclaimed — D——n the pens! — the paper is cursed bad! — what confounded ink!" — "Oh, fie, fie, Mr. Groppenalbo, cries HUGO, — an instructor of youth, and use profane words! —

Here

Here EPISTOMEN interposed, — “ Give me leave, Sir, — Our friend Groppenalbo, you know, is only observing the rule of the great Longinus in his discourse of the Sublime, wherein he says, that swearing now and then on a proper occasion, does grandem efficere orationem. — Besides, he seems, at this time, to be in the same predicament with the man whom Persius describes in his third *Satire*. —

With much ado, his Book before him laid,
And Parchment with the smoother side display'd ;

He takes the Papers ; lays 'em down again,
And, with unwilling Fingers, tries the Pen :
Some peevish Quarrel straight he strives to
pick ;

His Quill writes double, or his Ink's too
thick ;

Infuse more Water ; now 'tis grown so
thin

It sinks, nor can the Characters be seen.”

——“ Well Mr. Groppenalbo, resumes
Hugo, we will decline the Writing at
this time, — You understand Grammar,
I suppose ?” — “ Oh, yes, perfectly,” re-
plies

plies Groppenalbo. — “ Pray then, says HUGO, will you analyze this well-known line —

A man's manners *shapes* his fortune.” —

“ Analyze it,” repeats Groppenalbo. — “ Yes, returns HUGO, — Point out the nominative case and the verb, &c.” — “ Oh yes, says Groppenalbo, that I'll do instantly,” — when, pausing a few *minutes*, — he replies, in an audible voice, “ *Man* it the *nominative* case, and *his* the verb.” When immediately poor Groppenalbo's ears were grated by a repetition of the discordant monosyllable *his*, — *his*, — by the whole company. He therefore hastily quitted the room, plentifully bestowing maledictions on them for their ignorance.

The Candidate next announced for examination is

P I C H R O C O D U S.

BRAGMARDO's first interrogation is, —
 “ Are you a Grammarian, Sir?” —
 “ An

"An English one, I presume, and please your Honour," replies Pichrocodus. —

"Oh, an English one, returns HUGO, then I must confine myself to the *vermicular* tongue. — Pray how do you define a Conjunction?" — "Why Sir, replies Pichrocodus, a Conjunction I conceive to be — A Part of Speech, void of signification itself, but so formed as to help signification, by making two or more significant sentences to be ONE significant sentence." — "That is not the true definition of a Conjunction," replies HUGO. —

"Well, but Sir, returns Pichrocodus, that definition is from the HERMES of the learned Harris." — "Oh, exclaims HUGO, Harris is a Cappochia, he had not the least idea of it. — A Conjunction is plainly a Word which connects the several parts of speech together, and which must always have the LIKE tense, number, case, &c." —

"But permit me to observe to you, Sir, replies Pichrocodus, that *that* idea of a Conjunction has been long exploded; — Does not Sanctius say, — Conjunctio neque casus, neque alias partes orationes (ut imperite docent) conjungit, ipsæ enim partes inter se conjunguntur — sed conjunctio.

junctio Orationes inter se conjungit?" —

Here EPISTOMEN, by way of caution, gives HUGO a smart twinge on the posteriors; which, however, being quite unexpected, so disconcerted him, that he inadvertently exclaimed, — "Confound your impudence, speak English! — What right have you to quote Latin authors, when you offer yourself as a mere English scholar?" — "Oh, Sir, replies Pichrocodus in amazement, — I hope no offence, — I always take care to pretend to less, and not more, than I understand."

BRAGMARDO, after a short pause, again interrogated him, — "Pray Mr. Pichrocodus, will you let me hear you analyze the Verbs in these two short sentences, —

My Wife scolds me.

My Dog barks (at) me.

And shew the reason why the preposition *at* is not equally requisite to both?" —

"Why, Sir, replies Pichrocodus, I apprehend the verbs *scold* and *bark* are both of belgic origin, and of that class which Grammarians generally term *Neuter* or *Intransitive*: When these verbs are therefore

fore to be expressed *actively*, they require a preposition (*præpositiva conjunctio*) to connect them with the following noun. So *clamo*, to cry out, becomes *inclamo*, to scold or rail at. *Latro* to bark, *allatro*, to bark at, — evidently by the connection of the prepositions *in*, *ad* (*at*) — that is, *contra aliquem clamor*, or *latro*. It is, therefore, very evident, the preposition *at* is requisite in both sentences to be grammatical English. We have many instances of active verbs becoming neuters, when the sentence respects the Energy or Affection only of the verb, that is, without having any regard to the subject: Thus, in the Laconic Epistle of Cæsar, *Veni, Vidi, Vici*, the two essentially active verbs are used as neuter; for *whom* he saw and conquered, was not the subject he boasted of. — But neuter verbs cannot, in general, be expressed actively without a prepositive connection; — as in the example just given, from *latro*, we have *aliquem allatrare*, active with an accusative.” — “Well, Sir, resumes Huco, I have patiently heard your learned investigation; but, I do assure you, it is merely specious, and futile to the last degree, — you seem to

have explained *obscurius par obscurum*. I say, they are grammatically right as I have expressed them. For, in the Persian language, the verb to *brawl* or *scold*, is *awaz-kurdun*, and by inserting the prepositive letter *u* (at), it becomes *auwaz-kurdun*, that is, to brawl or bark *at*, in our language; — which plainly accounts for the use of the preposition with one verb, and not with the other. Apply yourself, Sir, to the Eastern languages, if you wish ever to be qualified to analyze Grammar synthetically and philosophically."

Here Huko ceased, and Pichrocodus imagining his examination ended, was retiring, when he was again interrogated by Huko:—
 " Pray, Sir, as you seem acquainted with languages, will you shew us from whence the words Calendar and Almanac are derived?" — Pichrocodus immediately replies: — " The former, which by many is supposed to be the offspring of chance, is in the latin *Calendarium*. from *Calendæ* or *Calendes*; the term whereby the Romans distinguished the *Neomenia*, or day of the New Moon, at the first day of the month: which word *Calendes*, I should
 imagine,

imagine, is from the Arabic root *Khal*, to cry out, to proclaim; because, at that time, the persons chosen for the function, announced to the people, the appearance of the new moon. From the same origin are most probably, — the greek *Kalo*, the old latin *Galo*, the gothic *Kalla*, the welsh *Galw*, the bas-breton *Gelu*, — which all have the same import, both in the noun and the verb.” — “Pish, cries HUGO, you are quite mistaken, it has not the least reference to the Eastern languages; — the word *Calendar* is evidently from the Irish *Calain-dair*, signifying the mysterious or secret registry. — Learn the Ibero Celtic in the *bearla Pheni* dialect, Sir, if you wish to investigate the true derivation of words; — the Irish being certainly the primæval language, or that which was spoken by our first parents in the garden of Eden. — Well, now Sir, what say you concerning the word *Almanac*?” — “This word, replies *Pichrocodus*, is undoubtedly from the Arabic article *al* the, and *manach* signifying calculation: So that *Almanach* is the calculation of the days of the year, or revolution of the heavenly bodies which regulate the days.” — “Pihaw,

— “ Pshaw, pshaw, cries HUGO, you are again quite in the wrong, Sir, — this word is also evidently of Irish extraction, — from *allain*, a season ; that is *all*, time ; *ain* of the year, — and *meannan* to manifest ; which, being properly compounded, would import a Calendar, an Almanac.” — BRAGMARDO, now signifying to Pichocodus that he had nothing more to ask him, he therefore silently quitted the room ; his countenance, however, expressing the utmost contempt for the sham learning of this eminent Pedagogue.

C A N T. VI.

Though he that has but impudence
To all things has a fair pretence ; —
Yet, as 'tis counterfeit, and brass,
You must not think 'twill always pass :
For all impostors, when they're known, —
Like Æsop's Daw, are pluck'd, — then shown.

BUTLER.

A R G U M E N T.

Robinorosko appears for Examination — he sets forth his great Acquisitions — is interrogated respecting the Greek Language — Specimen of his Poetry — curious Harangue of the Public Crier at Boudinnoir concerning Celestial Phenomena — Thimblewillan interrogated — Bragmardo's curious Philosophical and Mathematical Questions — he is publicly charged by Thimblewillan with Plagiarism — who is, in consequence thereof, abruptly dismissed.

ROBINOROSKO being announced,
BRAGMARDO thus address'd him, —
“ Well, Sir. Pray have you been long
in

in the school-line?" — To which, Robinorosko replies, — "Yes, some years. — I have taught in many principal academies, both in town and country, in each of which, I have acquitted myself with honour, and have acquired universal applause by the success of my peculiar modes of instruction. — The business of the Counting-house I am also perfectly acquainted with; — have a thorough knowledge in the Mathematical and Philosophical sciences; — Geography and Astronomy are at my fingers ends; — and a correct taste for Poetry, and the Belles Lettres, is the result of the employment of my leisure hours: I have likewise attained so great a share of Classical knowledge, that, by the repeated solicitations of my friends, I have been some time engaged with preparing myself for the Gown." — "Then, returns Hugo, you have learned Greek, I suppose, Sir?" — "Oh, yes, replies Robinorosko, I have made a tolerable proficiency in that beautiful and luxuriant language." — Here EPISTOMEN, rather dubious of his friend acquitting himself with propriety, took up the question, by requesting Robinorosko to give him the English.

English to the short adage — 'Agapēs ou zēti ēautos. — "Oh, as to that, Sir, replies Robinorosko, I don't pretend to *con-*
strue Greek, I, — I, — I am, however, perfectly acquainted with the Characters, and know many of the abbreviations." —
 "Indeed!" — cries EPISTOMEN. — Doctor Drubbem, who had hitherto kept a profound silence, being now sensibly piqued at such glaring pedantry, and well knowing that EPISTOMEN's classical knowledge was, in reality, little superior to BRAGMARDO's, rose up with observing, that he humbly conceived the true reading of the sentence just given was 'Agapē ou zētei eautē; and, moreover, that 'agapē looked bald without the præpositive article ē. Here the subject dropped, as EPISTOMEN made no reply thereto.

Hugo, therefore, again addresses himself to the candidate under examination, —
 "Well, Mr. Robinorosko, Græcis literālis eruditus! — Ha! ha! he! — Have you any specimens of your poetic compositions with you?" — Yes, replies Robinorosko, I have a few lines here, which, in my opinion, would not have
 disgraced

disgraced the pen of a Dryden, or a Pope."

— He was therefore requested by the whole company to read them. Upon which, Robinorosko rose from his seat, bowed to the audience in the true Chinese taste, hemm'd three times, and thus began in a very audible theatrical tone: —

"Long I woo'd — In sacred Grove ;

Still pursu'd — My tender Love.

Oh, happy hour! — As she flew :

Fly no more, — She sigh'd, Ah no.

ROBINOROSKO RECENSUI."

"*Recensui*, repeats EPISTOMEN, — the lines are not absolutely your own then?"

— "Why yes, Sir, I may call them my own, replies Robinorosko, I had the subject only given me, — the sentiment, — the measure, — the rhyme, — all my own production, I do assure you." — "Excellent rhyme, *sur ma vie!* exclaims EPISTOMEN, — grove, love, — hour, more, — flew, no, — I perceive, Mr. Robinorosko, you have no need to have recourse to the *Carmen Jocularis* for the clinking of your verse. What an elegant *Chanson de ricochet!* — What a nice observation of the *cesura!* And how sentimentally

mentally expressive the whole! — You will most certainly become Poet Laureat in time." — These encomiums were so well adapted to Robinorosko's vanity, that he received them with the greatest satisfaction, appearing totally insensible of the irony intended thereby.

BRAGMARDO, seemingly apprehensive of his friend supplanting him in his office, now rose up; and, with a menacing countenance, again addresses himself to Robinorosko: — "Well now, Sir, a word or two respecting your Mathematics, Philosophy, and Astronomy. — Pray, what might be the capacity of the famous Cistercian or Heidelberg run of St. Bernard, — the length being half its breadth, and depth twice its length?" — To which, after a few moments consideration, Robinorosko, replies, — "From those data, I conceive, no man in the world can solve your question." — "Not solve the question! returns HUGO, a pretty Mathematician truly; — Why, Sir, it contained 300 hogsheds, — Ha! ha! he! — Well, now for Philosophy, Sir, — Why does the wind called Cecias attract

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the clouds?" — Robinorosko replied, he had never before heard speak of such a wind. — "What, Sir, cries HUGO, a classical Philosopher, and not know that Aulus Gellius says. — *Est etiam ventem nomini Cecias, quid Aristoteles ita flare dicio, ut nubes non procul propellam, sed ut sese vocet!*" — "It may be so, replies Robinorosko; but it is a treatise I am not acquainted with." — "An excellent Philosopher, exclaims HUGO; — read Aristotle *De Præstigiis Dæmonum*, Sir. Pray, Mr. Robinorosko, will you give me your opinion — whether the atoms revolving by the atmospheric pulsations, occasioned by the hermagorical harmony, might ever effect a compaction or a dissolution of a Quintessence, by the application of the Pythagorical Numbers?" — Robinorosko exclaims, in the greatest astonishment, — "*Dang my buttons*, — if I comprehend one word of it!" — Upon which, the whole company burst into an immoderate fit of laughter; and HUGO seeing many of the audience so much affected with the risible fit as to exhibit tears trickling down their cheeks, and thinking to continue the laugh against Robinorosko, whom

whom he imagined was alone the object of their ridicule, he took occasion to propose another question to him, — “ Pray, Mr. Philosopher,—Why do the eyes become full of water from immoderate laughing ?” — Robinorosko replied, it was a subject he was not very conversant with, and could not therefore give him a satisfactory answer; but should be glad, notwithstanding, to hear a just reason assigned for it. — “ That you shall instantly, returns HUGO, — It is caused Sir, by the vehement concussion of the substance of the brain, by which those lachrymal humidities being pressed out, glide through the Optic Nerves.—Study the doctrine of Angiology, Sir, and you will never be at a loss to account for any natural Phenomenon in the anatomic system, respecting either the nerves, arteries, or veins.”

“ Well now Sir, continues HUGO, will you be pleased to inform us, in what respect you have ever distinguished yourself in the Astronomical department?” — “ Why, replies Robinorosko, I calculate the CELESTIAL PHENOMENA for every month in the year, for both the fixed stars and the primary

and secondary planets ; which I perform with such wonderful accuracy, as to predict the times even to a *single second*." — " Astonishing ! cries Hugo ; — To the meridian of what place are your *calculations* adapted, pray ?" — " Meridian ! cries Robinorosko, — Oh, I pay no regard to such vulgar trifles as those ; my *calculations* will answer for the kingdom in general." — " Admirable ! replies Hugo ; — and are they for *mean* or *apparent* time ?" — " Oh, as to that, replies Robinorosko, — they — they — they are *almanac time, almanac time, Sir*." —

EPISTOMEN hearing this, immediately exclaims — " How enlightened is the present age ! — And what improvements are daily making in the Arts and Sciences ! — Pray, Mr. Robinorosko, will you give me leave to ask you, — whether you give these curious *calculations* to the public before the month commences, or when the time is elapsed ?" — " Oh, always before, Sir, replies Robinorosko ; and my extraordinary mode of calculation is such, that I can as easily determine the times of the Phenomena for three or four years before,

as

as for the same number of days, or hours."

— "Excellent indeed! cries EPISTOMEN; but pray — Here they were suddenly alarmed by the bell of the public crier of the village; upon which, the whole company, impatient to hear the news of the day, eagerly rushed out of the room, and had closely surrounded the bellman long before the ceasing of his clapper; when, after a short pause, he began as follows —

"Oyes! Oyes! Oyes! — To all
 "Wou'd-be-thought Astronomers, As-
 "trologians, Mathematicians, and Pe-
 "dagogues, — This is to give Notice,
 "that there is publish'd annually, a Book
 "called the

"NAUTICAL EPHEMERIS,

"WHEREIN ARE SHEWN THE

"CELESTIAL PHENOMENA

"for every month in the year, — viz. the
 "Appulses, and Occultations of the fixed
 "Stars by the Moon and the Primary
 "Planets; the Immersions and Emer-
 E 3 sions

“ sions of Jupiter’s Satellites, with their
 “ Configurations at the most convenient
 “ Hour for Observation, for every day in
 “ the Year; the Solar and Lunar Eclipses,
 “ &c. &c. which being calculated for the
 “ Meridian of the ROYAL OBSERVATORY
 “ at UTOPIA in *apparent time*, may be im-
 “ mediately adapted to the Meridian of
 “ any other place, from its known Dif-
 “ ference of Longitude in Time or Mo-
 “ tion; and without any farther Skill in
 “ Figures than what any Schoolboy is
 “ possessed of — common Addition and
 “ Subtraction. Thus the Longitude of
 “ our neighbouring town MANKES, is
 “ well known to be *Two Degrees and an*
 “ *half West* of the Royal Observatory, or
 “ *Ten Minutes in Time* later; consequent-
 “ ly if *ten Minutes* be subtracted from the
 “ Times given in the said *Nautical Alma-*
 “ *nac*, you have all the Phenomena ad-
 “ justed to the *Time* at MANKES. Oh!
 “ Ye intelligent Inhabitants of the ancient
 “ *British* MANKEN, the famous *Roman*
 “ MANKUN, and the respectable and opu-
 “ lent *Modern* MANKES, — why will ye
 “ suffer your Understandings to be pub-
 “ licly arraigned and insulted, by the Re-
 “ petition

“ petition of a most *Palpable Plagiarism* in
“ your Public Papers, under the assuming
“ Title of CELESTIAL PHENOMENA ! O
“ tempora ! O mores ! — So ends the
“ Speech of the Crier of Boudinnoir.”

The Candidates, on receiving this information, immediately resolved one and all, to avail themselves of so valuable a discovery, in order to acquire the reputation of being able Astronomers, by publishing their *Menstrual Calculations* of the *Celestial Phenomena*, for the longitude of their respective places of residence.

The Boudinnoirs now retiring to their apartment, it was proposed to finish the examination of Robinorolko ; — but, to their great surprise, they were informed, on enquiry, that he was observed crossing the fields over hedge and ditch with the greatest expedition, towards the town of MANKES, while the public crier was making his harangue.

It was therefore agreed to call in the Candidate next on the list, which was —

THIMBLEWILLAN.

THIMBLEWILLAN.

THIMBLEWILLAN, having advanced steadily to the table in the middle of the room, thus politely addressed the audience — “Gentle Men, I — *hic* — *hic* — am your very humble servant.” — “Well, Mr. Thimblewillan, says HUGO, upon what pretensions do you offer yourself as a candidate?” — “My pretensions, Sir, replies Thimblewillan, are founded on the basis of — *hic* — *hic* — Mathematical and Philosophical knowledge.” — “Oh, Mathematics and Philosophy, observes HUGO: — Well, Sir, pray then what is the origin of the term *Cross and Pile*?” — “*Cross and Pile*! cries Thimblewillan, I don’t see this has any reference to either Mathematics or Philosophy.” — “Yes, certainly it has, says HUGO, — The under-iron of the stamp wherein the piece is laid to receive the *momentum*, is called the *Pile*; which is the opposite side to the *Cross*; — plainly a Physico-Mathematical question. — Ha! ha! he! — As you are a Philosopher, Sir, pray let me hear your answer to the famous question of Alexander

ander Aphrodiseus — Why the Lion, who with his only cry and roaring affrights all beasts, dreads and fears a White Cock? — “This, I apprehend, has no more to do with Philosophy than the other,” replies Thimblewillan. — “Oh, yes, returns HUGO, you are much mistaken, — the true Philosophical reason is — Because the presence or virtue of the sun, which is the organ and promptuary of all terrestrial and syderial light, doth more symbolize and agree with a White Cock, as well in regard of that colour, as of his property and specific quality, than with a Lion.—Ha! ha! he! Thimblewillan informed him, that these were subjects he was not conversant in, having confined his studies to Pure Philosophy and Mathematics. — “Pure Philosophy, do you say, cries HUGO, — then pray, let me hear your sentiments of the philosophical energy of the mystical E I?” — “Upon my word, replies Thimblewillan, I don’t comprehend the meaning of it. — Has it any reference to Algebra?” — “Algebra! cries HUGO: — No, — a Philosopher, and never read Plutarch’s treatise on the signification of the mysterious E I; which two letters

letters were divinely written, and transmitted from heaven ! ” —

“ I perceive Mr. Thimblewillan, continues Hugo, by your testimonials, that you are an Algebraist ? ” — “ Yes, yes, replies Thimblewillan, I have been a contributor to the Ladies’ Diaries some years. ” — “ But, says Hugo, are those compositions your own, my friend ? ” — “ My own ! — cries Thimblewillan, — pray don’t ask me such a question. ” — “ What tergiversation ! cries Hugo, — answer me truly and explicitly. ” — “ Well, says Thimblewillan, if I must so answer, — they are not my own compositions ; — some of my acquaintances do them for me. I pick out a little here and there, as well as I can, — copy them out fair, and transmit them to the Author of the Diary, who frequently obliges me with the insertion of them under my own signature. — Pray, who can blame me for this ? — I think it is managing time very frugally, and acquiring the the name of *Mathematician* at a very little trouble and expence. ” — “ Why, thou Cataian, exclaims Hugo, dost thou avail thyself of other people’s performances, — and

and then publicly avow it! " — " Softly, softly, good Mr. Bragmardo, retorts Thimblewillan, — have I no precedent for so doing?" — Here, taking a paper out of his pocket, he gives it into the hands of EPISTOMEN, who, not in the least apprized of the contents of it, read aloud, as follows :—

" I do hereby acknowledge, that last Christmas Mr. —, lent me the rough copy of his solutions to all the Questions in the Ladies' Diary, which he had then sent off to London: And that I copied these solutions, and sent them to the Author of the Diary, as my own Performance. For which unjust and ungrateful action, I do hereby ask Pardon.

Witness my hand,

HUGO DE BRAGMARDO."

Nov. 30th, 1774.

The moment he ended, — HUGO exclaims—*" Ne malorem refrices memorias, — it is all false, abominably false, and undefaceable!"* — When instantly, out of respect to the great BRAGMARDO, it was unanimously

mously agreed to commit the Paper to the flames ; when, to the utter astonishment of the audience, it remained perfect and unconsumed in the midst of the fire. Hugo perceiving this, immediately, at the risk of his fingers, seized the paper, and, with the greatest indignation, tore it into a thousand pieces. — But, behold the permanency and cohesive energy of TRUTH, — the particles instantly flew together again by the power of attraction, forming the whole complete as before ; which yet continued hovering about the room as if animated ! The Boudinnoirs, on seeing this, were struck with a general panic ; — but Doctor Drubben, having more resolution than the rest, stepping forth, secured the fugitive paper ; and afterwards deposited it among the natural and artificial curiosities in the public Academy at MANKES, where it is, at this day shewn, as one of the most extraordinary productions of this country.

Though Hugo was certainly much disconcerted by this unexpected event, — yet, summoning to his aid, all the effrontery he was master of, — he again proceeded

ed in the examination ; — “ Didst thou ever read, Timothy Thumbstall, in Hinden’s Polychronicon, the curious question of Ebrank Memphricias King of Britain, — Why a Tailor is the common emblem of a coward ? ” — — — “ By the body of Pythagoras, — exclaims Thimblewillan, his hand just in the act of taking BRAGMARDO by the collar, dost thou mean to insult me, thou Jobbernowl ? ” — — — “ What, retorts Hugo, dost thou presume to infuscate my character by prolat-ing such abominable falsities, and opprobrious epithets, and then have the assurance to alarm me by an appulse ! — Thou Turiuru, — thou Catamite, — thou The-lyphthorian. — Remove him instantly, Gemmen, I beseech you.” Thimblewillan was therefore immediately forced out of the room, and finally discarded.

C A N T. VII.

Now may I tell how silence reign'd
throughout,
And deep attention hush'd the rabble rout ;
How ev'ry claimant tortur'd with desire,
Was pale as ashes, or as red as fire ; —
How th' mighty pedants bit their nails and star'd,
When caught i' th' trap for others they'd prepar'd.
ROSCIAD.

A R G U M E N T.

Sedanbello examined as a Penman, Designer, and Linguist — Hugo's great Learning exhibited concerning the Word Gargle — Sedanbello addresses him in twenty-four different Languages — and acquires the good Opinion of Doctor Drubben, by a modest Display of his Knowledge in the Greek and Hebrew.

THE Candidate next announced for examination was SEDANBELLO, whom Hugo immediately addressed thus : — “ Pray, Sir, what are your professed qualifications ? ” — To which Sedanbello

bello replied, — “ My pursuits have been chiefly confined to Penmanship, Drawing, and Languages.” — “ Have you got any specimens of your Writing and Drawing,” says HUGO. — Upon which Sedanbello presents him a small roll of papers, which HUGO opens, and makes the following remarks in examining them.

“ Hum — stiff, stiff, not Serle’s angle, — What an ingamnation ! — Why, Sir, I perceive that you infucate your writing ! — Humble imitation indeed of Sandby’s tint, — no keeping, — your *Point of Sight* out of the picture ! — Oh, ridiculous, Sedanbello *faciebat* ! — *fecit*, I suppose you intended, Friend ?” —

“ Excuse me, Sir, replies Sedanbello,* I thought it rather more modest ; and have very good authority for so doing. — Pliny, you know, informs us, that the most eminent artists among the ancients subscribed thus :— ‘ *Apellēs* ‘ *epoiēi*, ‘ *Polyclēitos* ‘ *epoiēi*, — *faciebat* ; and never ‘ *epoiēsē*, or *fecit*.’ — “ Right, right, Sir, replies HUGO, my memory is treacherous indeed, — yes, yes, — *heap o’ hay*, not *heap o’ ice*.”

Here BRAGMARDO being somewhat foiled, would willingly have resigned his post to EPISTOMEN; and had certainly declined any farther examination of this candidate, had not his friend, by a very significant look, encouraged him to proceed.

Taking occasion therefore to withdraw from the company a few minutes, as by a natural exigency, he had immediate recourse to his Mnemonicum; when, having sufficiently recruited his mental budget, he returned to his station, and again addressed himself to Sedanbello.

“Well, Sir, now for a *specimen* of your abilities as a Linguist. Pray, will you give me — hum — let me see — the word *Gargle* suppose, in both the dead and living languages?” — “Gargle, Sir, replies Sedanbello,—it is in latin, gurgēs; but it is so unusual a word, that, I must confess, I don’t recollect it in any other language.” — “Pshaw, exclaims HUGO, a professor of languages indeed!”

Here BRAGMARDO, assuming an extraordinary air of consequence, elegantly
blowing

blowing his nose, and then giving it a tweak with his finger and thumb, began : “ The word Gargle, Gemmen, — is in latin, gurgēs ; — in *french*, gargant ; — in *italian*, gargoüille ; — in *flemish*, garga-rēon ; — in *greek*, gorgelen ; — in *spanish*, gorgo ; — in *german*, gegurgel ; — all which have manifestly been formed from the noise the throat makes in gargling one’s mouth ; which proves what I have some time since publicly advanced on this subject, — that all languages are originally and radically derived from the same adventitious and circumstantial properties in nature. — Here a general buzz of applause was heard to run through the whole company ; which had so visible an effect on BRAGMARDO, that his countenance and attitude, at that instant, exhibited a striking resemblance of Don Quixote when he had just knocked down the Knight of the Mirrours.

BRAGMARDO now informed Sedanbello that he might withdraw, as (he observed to the company) he was evidently, in respect to languages. — *Res fictum et adumbratam* ; — when Sedanbello, making a

most respectful bow, returned him, in
low dutch, —

“ Myn Heer, ik bedank u, feer ootmoedelyk.”

Hugo, at a loss what reply to make, stood as if thunderstruck, — when Sedanbello immediately adds, — “ Verstaat gy my niet ? ” — To which no answer being yet given, he addresses himself to the audience, in *french* : —

“ Messieurs, Je ne crois pas avoir entendu de ma vie des sottises plus grandes que celles qu’il a dit ! ”

No reply being made, he continues, in *spanish* : —

“ Mui Señores míos, Los grandes y el vulgo confunden à estos con los hombres doctos ; mas aquellos que son verdaderamente doctos, los confideran por unos pobres pedantes.” —

All was silent. — BRAGMARDO stood as if petrified ; which Sedanbello observing,

ing, he again addressed him, in *portuguese* : —

“ Meu Senhor, Ai muito emtre a dizer e fazer : Ha no mundo muito emganno.”

Then in *italian* : —

“ Signore, Sai tu perchè, generalmente parlando, gli uomini che passano nel mondo per più eruditi e per più sapienti, sono gente ne troppo buona per se stessi, ne buona troppo per altri ?”

EPISTOMEN, who had a smattering of the *italian*, and seeing the distress of HUGO, who did not understand one word of all that the candidate had said to him, very frankly observed to SEDANBELLO, in the same language, — “ Tu ti se’ ben vendicato,” — to which he replied, with a submissive gesture, — “ Signore mio, Vi ringratio di questo honore.”

And then proceeded, addressing himself still to BRAGMARD, in *german*, —

“ Juncker, Gott geb euch gluck und
hiel

hiel zuvor. — Solche Ehre habe ich nicht verdient.

Then in *danish*, —

“ Myn herre, endog ieg met ingen tunge talede, lygesom boern, oeg uskellig creatuer.”

Hugo stood with his eyes fixed stedfastly on him, which Sedanbello perceiving, he continued, in *norwegian*, —

“ Din wilia geskia paa Jorden som handt er udi himmelin.”

In *icelandic*, —

“ Verde thinn villie, so a jordo, sem a himne.”

In *biscayan*, —

“ Jona, andie gaussa gouffy 'etan beharda er remedio beharde de ve:sela yffer landa.”

In *erse*, —

“ Agus maith dhùinne ar bhfiacha,
ambuil

ambuil mhaithmuid dar bhfeieham-
hnuibh."

And then, jeering him as an astronomer,
in *manx*, —

"Ayr, Vod oo bannaghtyn millish y
trilleen y lhiettal, ny kianglaghyn Orion
y cayfley?"

He then ridicules his astrology, by ask-
ing him, in *welsh*, —

"Taad, A ddygi di allan Mazzaroth
yn eu hamfer?"

Then in modern *irish*, —

"Afhreaduighe! bhfuil tu do dhùf-
gadh? Is sonadh an ti a gheibh eaguai,
agus an duine a gheibh tuigse."

He then gives Hugo a specimen of the
armoric tongue, —

"Ha na permetet quiet ez couezam en
tentation, hoguen hon delivret a drouc."

Of

Of the *cornish* dialect, —

“ Ha na lêdei nei idn tentation, by’z dilver nei thart drog.”

Then he addresses him in the *chinese* language, —

“ Hao gin, Ngo ngai leao ching tching-tie y pen chu y tchang tchi y quan pi, pa pou te ni ngai. Gin men ti hao !”

Now in the *slavonic*, —

“ Kæ fi chorasc hemos ta crimata bemon itzone, kæ hemas fichorasomen ekinous opou.”

Again he addresses him in the *persic*, —

“ Aibad Hkodaeer becamooz, ou Ahikam mukkidifra arjimind daz.”

Here Hugo, starting from his seat, cries out, — “ Where, the devil, does this fellow come from !”

To

To which Sedanbello immediately replies, in *arabic*, — -

“ Nin hur diavosth munarbotim dalgousch pulstrapin duchim scoth pruch galeth dal Salfordin, min foulcrich al conin butathen doth dal prin.”

“ What confounded jargon is this, cries Hugo, I ask thee who thou art? — and what is thy employment?”

To which he instantly answers, in *greek*, —

“ Pater d' ém éphyse Kopaina ; — Anagkàsomai to somata érgasomenos ta épitedéia porizesthai.”

Here Doctor Drubbem, who was well acquainted with the greek language, rose up ; and having expressed great concern, on hearing that Sedanbello was no better provided for in life, than to support himself by daily labour, begged leave to ask him, — whether he had not, in the reply just given, mistaken the vocative case
for

84 THE SCHOOL CANDIDATES.

for the nominative, *Kopaina* for *Kopaines*. — To which Sedanbello replied, — that it certainly appeared so at the first view; but, he was then speaking in the Macedonian dialect, where the *sigma* is frequently rejected, and *eta* changed into *alpha*.

EPISTOMEN now taking a greek testament out of his pocket, gave it to Sedanbello, desiring him to parse a verse. Accordingly, he opened to the first chapter of St. John's Gospel; which, indeed, appeared to be the only part of the book that had ever been read; — and began as follows:

“ *En archē ēn o lógos, kai a lógos ēn pròs tòn Thēon, kai o logos en Thēòs.*

En, — a prepos. governing the dative case.

Arche, — a subst. of the second declension. Fem. Gen. Sing. Numb. Dat. case, *'Arche*, the beginning, Gen. *archēs* &c.

En,

En, — a V. subst. the third Perf. sing.
Indic. *ěimi*, *ěsoma*, *ěmen*, to be.

O, — the art. masc. gend. sing. numb.
nom. case, *o*, *e*, *to*, gen. *tu*,
tes, *tu*, &c.

Logos, — a subst. of the third declen.
masc. gend. sing. numb. nom.
case, *Logos*, the word, gen.
logou, &c. a verbal noun, from
perf. midd. of *legō*.

Kai, — a copulative conj. and.

Pros, — a preposition, with.

Ton, — the article, masc. gend. sing.
numb. acc. case.

Theos, — a subst. masc. gend. sing. numb.
nom. case, *theos*, gen. *theou*, &c.

Doctor Drubben, now appearing perfectly satisfied, politely thanked Sedanbello; who, immediately turned about to BRAGMARDO, and again addressed him, in the *morisco* tongue, —

H

“ Prug

“ Prug freft frinf forgmand ftochdi
drhds pag bralelang Bragmardo chavygni
pomardiere rufh pkalldracg Boudinnoir
pres Mankes.”

Hugo, flarting up, cries out, — “ This
is certainly the Devil’s own language ! —
Thou *Rattlesnake*, fpeak as I can under-
ftand thee.”

To which Sedanbello inflantly retorts,
in *hebrew*, —

“ Kij-afij-tha zoth arwr atta miccol
habbehémah wmicol bhayyath haffade al
gehhonecha théléch veaphar tochal coly-
emé hhayyécha.”

“ More confounded gibberifh, cries
Hugo, — I fuppofe this is the language
of the antipōdes.”

Doftor Drubbem defired him to re-
collect himfelf, as this, he obferved, was
pure *hebrew*, and fpooken with the greateft
propriety.

He

He then desired Sedanbello would once more oblige them by construing and parsing the sentence he had now spoken; to which he readily consented, and began thus, —

Kij-a-fij-tha, — because thou hast done, —
kij, a rational particle,
 because, — with *maccaph*,
 and *afath*, to make, second
 per. sing. masc.

zoth, — this, a pron. demonstr.
 fem. gend.

at-ta, — thou (art) pron. second
 pers. masc. gend. put here
 for a verb subst.

a-rwr, — cursed, a part. paulkal
 here, from *aray* to curse,
 &c.

miccol-hab-behe-ma, — from *ccol*, a noun of
 all gend. and numb. and
behemah, a beast of burden,
 with *maccaph*.

H 2

w-miccol,

w-miccol, — and above every, — from
ccolal, to perfect, with
 prefix.

hhaij-yath, — beast of, — a subst. fem.

haf-sa-de, — the field, — a noun rad.
 masc.

al-gehho-necha, — upon thy belly, from
gahan, noun masc. and
 prep. *al*.

the-lech, — thou shalt go, sec. perf.
 sing. *yalach*, to go.

vea-phar, — and dust, a noun rad.
 masc. with prefix.

tochal, — shalt thou eat, *achal*, kal
 fut. first perf. sing.

yeme, — (all) the days of, noun
 rad. masc,

hhay:yecha, — thy life, rad. *hhay:ya*, to
 live, with affix.

Sedanbello

Sedanbello again received the thanks of Doctor Drubben; and then turning towards BRAGMARDO, he repeats aloud, —
“ Per Diem, Domine, magis magnos Pedagogos, non sunt magis magnos sapientes.”

He then retired, with observing to the audience, — that he had addressed this Man of Letters, — this persic Dana Namdar, in twenty-four different languages, — low dutch, french, spanish, portuguese, italian, german, danish, norwegian, icelandic, biscayan, erse, manx, welsh, irish, armoric, cornish, chinese, slavonic, persic, arabic, greek, morisco, hebrew, and latin, — and he plainly appeared to be totally ignorant of them all, — but says he, in quitting the room, —
“ It is a monstrous thing to see a learned School-master.”

C A N T. VIII.

Now voices over voices rise,
While each to be the learned'st vics ;—
Not jumbling particles of matter
In chaos, e'er made such a clatter : —
And Midas now concludes his speeches,
With Asses' ears, and dirty —.

SWIFT.

A R G U M E N T.

Cumberlando interrogated — displeases Hugo by his Translation of a Passage in Virgil — addresses him in the Gypsy or Cant Jargon, concluding with the Irish Pille-lu ; from whence Hugo conceiving him to be an Imp in Disguise, takes occasion to abuse him — Hugo's Disaster with Doctor Drubben — brought Home across a Jack Ass — his disagreeable Plight when arrived there — the salutary Advice of Epistomen at his Departure — Hugo's Reflections at his awaking the next Morning.

THE candidate last upon the list for examination was CUMBERLANDO. He was no sooner introduced, than HUGO thus addressed him, — “ Well, Mr. Cumberlando,

lando, upon what pretensions do you appear here as a candidate?" — To which Cumberlando replied, — "Si placet dominatione tuæ. — I have no great pretensions to Writing, or the Mathematical and Philosophical Sciences; though I was once a member of the society of the Peuseodelphomasticofluentimecanalogastrologos, but now belong to the class of Thairozygokarnchimetopoi." — "Kamkim-topoi! repeats Hugo, — what strange people are those pray, — the Footindoups, or Hhouhenhums?" — Cumberlando straight replied, — "Brisz marg dalgotric nubllnezos, Isquefez albork, cinqz zacbac. Strompiz Bragmard, walmup quost grufzbac." — And then continued, as loud as he could possibly vociferate, — "Bhuile! bhuile! bhuile! och! och! mucht muchta! bhuile! och! och!"

On hearing which, BRAGMARDO instantly leaps from his seat into the middle of the room, and, with a countenance expressive of the greatest terror, roars out, — "L—d, have mercy on us! — What infernallingo is this! — What, art thou an Imp! — These are the names for arrant devils, couchant,

couchant, passant, and rampant! What, thou hast read Merlin Coccajus De Patria diabolorum, I suppose." — "Lingo, do you call it, says Cumberlando, — why, Sir, this is the true scientific language of the natives of Grand Cairo (of which the *lantern* language of the Vatican is a corrupt dialect); and the very exclamation which Eve uttered, when she had inveigled Adam to taste of the mortiferous apple. Did you never read, pray, the writings of the Primitive Fathers; or the Anthologia of Aristophanes?" — "I read the lumber of those doughty credulists, or the buffooneries of Aristophanes, replies HUGO, — no, I would have thee to know, that my time has been spent in nobler pursuits, — deep study in the laws of nature, and the occult sciences. — Pristhee hadst thou ever a disorder called the Mumps?" — Cumberlando informed him that he was not acquainted with the term. — "Thou art but an apedest then, and no classical Scholar, I'm certain, says HUGO, — Why, it is an imposthumous swelling in the Parotidal Arteries, which every man of letters experiences, being caused by intense study."

EPISTOMEN

EPISTOMEN therefore now proposed to put Cumberlando to the test, by requesting him to construe a few lines in Virgil; to which he immediately consented, and opening to *Buccolica Ecl. 1.* he began thus:

“Tu Tityre, O thou Noel, recubans
 ligin basking o' thy back sub tegmine under the
 Overture patulæ fagi of an unsnigg'd Hollin,
 —Meditaris thou whifflest away sylvestram
 musam thy wooden sang tenui avenâ o' thy
 gingling Joany.”

Hugo here interrupted him, — “Hold, thou Ptochalazon, — no more of thy impertinence.” — Doctor Drubbem, filled with resentment at seeing Cumberlando treated in so scandalous a manner, and whose humorous disposition he was well acquainted with, instantly rises up, and thus addresses himself to Hugo, — “I think, my Friend, a little Anticyrian Hellebore would be of service to you, to purge your brain, as you seem to have taken too large a Hypnotic dose after dinner.” — Hugo, fired with indignation, instantly retorts, — “Thou Ichneumon, thou Racoön,
 thou

thou Divelkin, — would thou hadst thy anus stuff'd with *Perficaria*, or thy crop with *Wolfs-bane*. — What! dost thou presume to remonstrate to me! — Thou who dost daily practise in thy profession, — *Gotts gespatz, und nicht Gotts gebett*; and deceivest the world with thy *pia fraus*! — What, thou hast been regenerated *ab extra*, like chickens hatch'd at *Grand Cairo*, — hast thou? Ha! ha! he!" — Which words were no sooner uttered, than *Drubbem*, advancing towards him, exclaimed, — "*Beatius est dare quam accipere*," — and instantly, with one blow, laid the great *BRAGMARDO* sprawling on the floor, and half drowned in an inundation of the contents of glasses, bowls and tankards.

EPISTOMEN, seeing his Friend in so dreadful a situation, flew to his assistance, exclaiming — "*Membra quatit, gelidusque còit formidine sanguis*," — which was no sooner perceived by *Drubbem*, but repeating his blows with redoubled fury about the head of *EPISTOMEN* and poor *Huco*, he soon put the former to flight, and rendered

dered the latter altogether unfit to complete the business of the day.

The Boudinnoirs having however, with much difficulty, reasoned Doctor Drubben into peace, and removed BRAGMARDO into another apartment, a consultation was held concerning the election; when, it was at length agreed, to confer the honour of Preceptor on Pantagriskin. Which determination being made public, the other candidates, much chagrined at their disappointment, departed to their respective places of abode.

BRAGMARDO, being now somewhat recovered from the effects of Drubben's fits, was desirous to return to the town of Mankes; but as he had drunk freely of the Champaign, he was become pretty mellow, and could not therefore, he prevailed on to depart without a little more, making the house reverberate with vociferating — ‘Landlord — *hic*, — bring me another glass of OINOZ. — Gemmen, here's to the Philosophical bottle. — Does not the great St. Augustus say, — *Anima certus, quia spiritum est, in sicco habitare non*

non potaloe?" — After this had been many times repeated, he, and his friend EPISTOMEN, took leave of the generous Boudinnoirs. But before they had made one fourth of the way, the great BRAGMARDO was so overcome with the effects of the wine and Drubbem's blows, that he was absolutely disqualified to proceed one step farther.

EPISTOMEN now knew not what step to take; — to carry him on his shoulders was a task too great for him to undertake at that time; — to leave him on the road, would have been to the last degree unfriendly. — In this dilemma, a travelling potter was fortunately passing by with some asses to the town of Mankes; it was therefore immediately agreed to lay our Hero across one of the beasts; in which ludicrous manner, like another Quixote, he was safely conveyed to his Gymnasium.

No sooner had BRAGMARDO entered the doors of his mansion, than he was saluted with a furious storm by the injured EDITH; which, however, at this time, had little

little or no effect on the mind of HUGO, who still remained in a state of insensibility.

BARGAMELLE's violent rage having by degrees subsided, it was concluded to remove HUGO to his bedchamber; when immediately EPISTOMEN kindly offered to assist her in the preparation; but, to their great surprise, they found that there had been a terrible eruption in the lower regions, the lava of which had extended even from head to feet. It was therefore now thought quite expedient to plunge him into a large reservoir of water; which operation not only answered the intention, but also very soon brought our Conjuror perfectly to his senses.

BRAGMARDO had no sooner recovered the use of his reason, and discovered the situation he was in, than he thus addressed his friend EPISTOMEN; — “ Oh, my best of Friends! How shall I find language to express the obligations I am under to you; or how shall I be ever able to make a return for all the kindness I daily experience from you. — Alas, alas, how shortsighted are the wisest of men! Had I but paid a
I proper

proper attention to the Morning Omens, and more strictly examined the face of the Heavens, I might have avoided the misfortunes, and, I fear, the disgraces of this day. When my dear EUTRUE awaked this morning in so grievous a humour, had I but called to mind the words of the great Arabian Philosopher and Astrologian Albumazar, these disasters would, in all probability, have been avoided."

"Know, says he, for a certain truth that every sleep that endeth with a starting, that leaves the person irksome, grieved, and fretting, doth either signify a present evil, or otherwise presageth or portendeth a future imminent mishap, — and that, either to themselves, or to their nextakin. And also, to presage or foretell an evil at their awaking, which is a kind of somnial divination, plainly indicates that some dismal fortune or mischance is destined and prepared for us, which shortly will not fail to come to pass. Many instances hereof might be produced from ancient history: — The dismal consequences of the dream and dreadful awaking of Hecuba, and also that of Euridice the wife of Orpheus

pheus, are too well known to you EPISTOMEN, to need reciting. As also what followed from the frightful dreams of Eneas and Turnus." — EPISTOMEN, with a shrug of his shoulders, replied, — "Son i sogni al fine sogni." — HUGO continued, — "I was indeed misled by the Maronian responses, — which is a custom I have practised some years with success; — but I now begin to think them fallacious, and the principle not genuine. — They gave me, this morning, — The first, in the sixth of the *Æneids*, —

Tu regere imperio populos, Romane,
memento.

Very expressive. — The second, — in the first *Æn.*

Hic ego nec metas rerum, nec tempora
pono.

Still more expressive. — And the third, — in the sixth *Æn.*

Ossendent terris hunc tantum fata.

Which, I acknowledge, was doubtful." —

"Why, replied EPISTOMEN, this, in my opinion, was no ways ambiguous; but
plainly

plainly pointed out the misfortunes that should befall you."

EPISTOMEN now took leave of his friend, strenuously advising him to relinquish entirely his Astrological and Botanical pursuits, as also his chimerical ideas of his future greatness arising from those studies ; and to apply himself wholly to attain the requisite qualifications of his calling. And especially recommended to his serious perusal, those two useful treatises of Mr. Dilworth, *A New Guide to the English Tongue*, — and *The School-master's Assistant*.

BRAGMARDO'S SOLILOQUY.

At his awaking next Morning.

“ **H**AVE I run my race of glory?
Are my days of triumph o'er?
Must I, whimpering, end my story
With a — *never conjure more?* ”

Yes, — for prov'd an arrant pedant,
All my views and wiles are seen:
Spite of ev'ry art, — tho' credent,
Truth has torn the painted screen.

Though in tatters it is flying,
And I'm prostrate on the ground;
Yet, will I, — *like myself* — be trying
To prove my *rottenness* is sound.

Nought

Nought but *warmth of temper* rage is,
 Gratitude is not my mark ;
 Detraction, fraud, and slanderous wages
 Pay my gen'rous patron *****.

To honour, friendship, — I'm superior,
 Cobweb barriers in my way ;
 Idle dreams, — to me inferior, —
 Thus I blow the chaff away.

Names, to blind the ignorant rabble ;
 Trash, — to men of my degree, —
 Zounds ! I scorn their pribble prabble ;
 I myself, am Lord of ME.

If, as Janus, they accuse me,
 Know, my pattern is St. PAUL ;
 Him they black while they abuse me,
 Was not he " all things to all ?"

May not I then sometimes flatter,
 Whilst I'm gaining what I want ?
 Once obtained, — may'n't I spatter,
 And those very words recant ?

Once,

Once, like Jove all arm'd with thunder,
 GROPPENALBO felt my hand,
 When he, poor Devil, did knock under !
 — 'Tis on this firm ground I stand.

Firm ! — In faith it sounds but hollow,
 Boudinnoir ascends to view ;
 Hooting, scorn, and hisses follow, —
 Candidating then ——— adieu."

F I N I S.

TYPOGRAPHI CATULI.

- P. 33, l. 3, f. he r. was.
 P. 34, l. 26, f. attend r. attended.
 P. 43, l. 17. insert it after Correct.
 P. 61, l. 1, f. whom r. who.
 P. 89, l. 19. r. monstrous.

* * False Syntax is distinguished by Italics;
 * or by a Dash under the Letters.

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Par la vertu de sa Baguette,
Voyez d'abord, si vous y voyez bien,
Jupiter tirant notre Planète
Du beau milieu de Rien.

Il trace un cercle dans l'espace,
Du bout du doigt pousse la masse,
Qui part, et vole, et tourne, et crac,
Tout doit obéir à son tact.

H. L.